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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/811,655	03/20/2001	Takashi Shinzaki	1075.1151	9981
21171	7590	04/06/2006	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			BHATTACHARYA, SAM	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2617	

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/811,655	SHINZAKI, TAKASHI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Sam Bhattacharya	2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 January 2005.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,52,53 and 56-59 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1,52,53 and 56-59 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claims 1, 52, 53 and 56-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoghooghi et al. (US 5,959,260) in view of Muramatsu et al. (US 6,477,391).

Regarding claims 1, 52 and 53, Hoghooghi discloses a mobile phone 100 carried by an authorized user to perform electronic information processes, including a main body 102; a battery pack 106 detachably attached to the main body, the battery pack having an I/O section 112 to input information (handwriting, gestures, commands or annotations) to the battery pack from outside the mobile phone, and to output information from the battery back to the outside of the mobile phone; and an interface section 514/116, disposed on the contact surface between the battery pack and the main body, providing communications between the main body and the battery pack, wherein the battery pack and the main body operate together to allow biometric or user verification (handwriting) information of a user of the mobile phone to be input to the main body from outside the mobile phone for biometric verification purposes (by handwriting recognition engine 560) by being input to the battery pack through the I/O section and being input to the main body from the battery pack through the interface section, and to allow information to be output from the main body to outside of the mobile phone by being output from the main body to the battery pack via the interface section and being output from the battery pack to outside the mobile phone through the I/O section. The handwriting information input to the main body from outside the mobile phone by being input to the battery pack provides

additional functionality to the mobile phone. See FIGS. 1 and 5 and col. 4, line 18 – col. 5, line 43 and col. 6, lines 25-43.

Hoghooghi fails to disclose that the interface section is an optical communications section which receives/transmits optical signals as the input/output signals.

In an analogous art, Muramatsu teaches the interface section is an optical communications section which receives and transmits optical signals as the input/output signals (“light guide 103” in Col. 7, line 36 to Col. 8, line 14 and Figure 11). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus of Hoghooghi wherein the interface section is an optical communications section which receives/transmits optical signals as the input/output signals, as taught by Muramatsu, in order to associate a mobile phone with external instruments in a non-contact manner.

Regarding claim 56, Hoghooghi discloses that the battery pack contains a processor 560 for utilizing the biometric information to provide the user verification function.

Regarding claim 57, Hoghooghi discloses that the battery pack contains a memory 558 for storing personal data of an authorized user of the mobile phone.

Regarding claim 58, Hoghooghi discloses that the battery pack communicates a result of the user verification function to the main body of the mobile phone. See FIG. 5.

Regarding claim 59, Hoghooghi discloses that the processor compares the personal data stored in the memory with the biometric information of a user of the mobile phone that is input into the input/output section of the battery pack, to provide the user verification function. See col. 6, lines 29-36.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed on 1/18/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding claims 1 and 52, Applicant states that Hoghooghi does not disclose or suggest a mobile phone having a battery pack for performing a user verification function using input/output signals comprising biometric information of a user of the mobile phone.

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Hoghooghi discloses that the user enters handwritten characters to train the system to recognize the user's handwriting. The recognition engine 560 compares the user's input and generates samples that correspond to readable characters and commands. This trainable system allows high recognition accuracy to be achieved for a particular user. See col. 6, lines 25-43. Since user recognition and verification are synonymous, Hoghooghi does disclose a mobile phone having a battery pack for performing a user verification function using input/output signals comprising biometric information of a user of the mobile phone.

Applicant states that Muramatsu does not disclose an optical communication means disposed on a contact surface between the battery pack and the main body.

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Examiner relies on Hoghooghi, not Muramatsu, for showing of an interface section 514/116, disposed on the contact surface between the battery pack and the main body. Examiner then relies on Muramatsu to show that the interface section in Hoghooghi can be an optical communication means. In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642

F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Moreover, one skilled in the art would be motivated to use an optical communication means for the interface section for the reasons discussed in the rejection.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sam Bhattacharya whose telephone number is (571) 272-7917. The examiner can normally be reached on Weekdays, 9-6, with first Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on (571) 272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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GEORGE ENG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER